

Marie Kaczmarek  
Life in Dragon and Watson  
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Transcribed by Elaine Carr

I'm Marie Havens Kaczmarek. I was born and raised in Dragon. My dad was Bill Havens. My mother was Elizabeth Havens. After my mother died my dad married Lou Hill. They lived together many years. She worked in the Treasurer office over at the county court house for years.

Dragon, I learned after I left, it was a unique place to grow up in. Then, it was just out there and we were there too. The reason for Dragons being was that it was on the railroad and the end of the railroad to begin to haul the gilsonite mine out to Mack, Colorado, where it was then loaded on the regular gage cars. The Uintah Railway was narrow gage over Baxter Pass. It had a 7.5 grade much of the way up there on the south side of the pass.

So, it was unique and the books about it and the people that want to come and see it, the Railroad buffs from all over the country. It's unique for two things, because of the grade and because they had two engines that were called articulated (?). The corners were so sharp on the railroad that the front wheels on these two engines turned independently from the rest of the train. I think one of those articulated engines is still over in the railroad museum in -----.

So, they brought the railroad in. They built it and it reached Dragon in 1904. The beginning of the gilsonite activity over there was just west of Dragon, up Dragon Canyon. The first mine was called Black Dragon. It came that far and then they started working the mines farther and farther north. Since it was Barber Asphalt Company that built the train and was the main mining company, it was at Rainbow. In 1911 they extended the railroad to Watson which was really a much smaller town than Dragon. If you've been there you know there wasn't any room to fit a bigger town in anyway. The company at Dragon and Rector was American Asphalt Association. The company at Watson and Rainbow was the Barber Company. The Barber Company was much larger than American Asphalt Association.

Dragon lies just about four miles northwest of the Colorado line on Evacuation Creek. Right on the creek and right where Dragon Canyon comes down from the west. However there was the mining town where the miners lived. It was another three miles to the northwest called Rector. The school and all of the other public buildings were in Dragon. Rector was strictly the miners. They had a bathhouse there and they had homes for the miners that were all company owned. Mr. Price, at that time I was growing up, was the foreman up to the -----.

Some of the names of the people that lived at Rector, that my sister from Alaska and I can remember, were the Prices, the Endacotts, the Pattersons, the Workmans, the Hodgekinsons, the Wardles, the Bowtons, the Bascombs, Andersons, Remingtons, and I know there were other

names that I can't remember. I'm leaning to remember the ones that had children in school with us in Dragon.

Names from Dragon, since I lived right there I can remember their names much better. Mr. Dishays was the superintendent. He had the big house in town. His family only lived there occasionally in the summer. His family lived in Grand Junction to put their two children in school. We learned later that we probably had as good an education in Dragon as they did in Grand Junction. The Martins, Mr. Martin was kind of like a sheriff up there. There wasn't ever anything happen as far as crime in Dragon. It was too small so his job wasn't too much. The Normans, the Shepherds, there was a family named Valeskis, he worked on the railroad, the Hydes, the Smiths, they were sheep men and they moved into town in the winter time, the Hills, they were cattlemen and they moved in to town in the winter time. The Lees, the Carhines, the Crouses, a fellow named Happy Crouse, and I assume that he was probably related to some Crouses in Brown's Park. He was such a sober crabby old man. Everybody called him Happy.

My sister and I were fascinated because on the old columbine milk cans and we wouldn't have cows in Dragon. We didn't have cows milk, nothing except canned. There was a ----- , a certificate to cut out, for the wives, so they always thought it was pretty funny that Happy Crouse got his wife off the columbine milk can.

The Cox's, the Eddings, Eddings worked with the -----, Thackers were sheep people that came in from Missouri, Whites, Gentries were cattle people and they lived just a few miles south of Dragon. Ingbersons were sheep people and also lived south of Dragon up Evacuation Creek. The Finnicums had the store. The Johnsons, Afton Johnson Massey lives here in town. She and I went all through grade school out there and were the closest friends. The Barrs, Yourdins, Selties, we always called him old John Almer, this old man with a long beard and scraggly hands with suspenders holding him up. He took care of the corrals for what care was needed for the Finnicums. There was Montgomerys, he was the doctor there for awhile. Wilsons, I know a lot of you remember Ivan Wilson, he worked so long in Ashton's in the children section. Illa and Carl lived out there for years when they were younger.

So the railroad came to Dragon in 1904. In 1911 it extended to Watson and a spur up to Rainbow to get that ore. In May 1939, the last train left, the last regular scheduled train. They ran trains after that because they picked up everything of there's, the homes of the railroad company which is also Barber Asphalt owned. They took all of the lumber and everything out, they took the rails and took the ties.

Then the two gilsonite companies, American Asphalt at Dragon and Rector, and Barber Company at Rainbow and Watson, took all of their houses down and moved them across the river. Barber Asphalt went over to Bonanza and all of the things of American Asphalt from Dragon went to Little Bonanza. That road was pretty bad in those days, but they cut those houses in half and loaded them on a truck and hauled them over to Little Bonanza and put them together again. We were all in mobile homes before we knew it when we moved. In the spring of 1939 I was home for Christmas in Dragon and when I came back in the spring I came back up my senior year in high school to Little Bonanza.

When you're a child in a town like this, what you remember most are the things connected with the school. There were two rooms at the school. It had a big room and then they added a little room later on. Even though they really didn't have that many students, like 30 in a class room, they always kept two teachers. I went all through seven grades. My sister went through eight grades and then we had to move away for her to go to high school.

Our mother moved with us and we went to Fruita, Colorado, in the winter time for high school. Some people came to Vernal. It was almost easier to go out on the train than it was to drive. It seems it's a few miles now, but the roads are so bad, and cars weren't as good as they are now. So, some of them came this way to high school and some of us swept out the other way.

They had four grades in the lower room and four grades in the upper room. I always laughed that the only year I had real peace was the year I was in fourth grade and my sister was in the fifth grade and we were in two different rooms and she couldn't go without her ----- . She tried pretty much to keep me straightened out.

Most of the teachers came from Vernal. There was a Mrs. Wardle. Miss Rodebach taught out there after I wasn't in school. Most of the teachers came from Vernal, some stayed a year or two and some only did a year because it was lonely if you were a single person out there I'm sure.

The activities all to us centered around the school. They had Christmas programs that we really looked forward to. It was just like the olden days because they filled socks with candy and oranges. The company furnished money for this. Then, they had gifts for each child too. Then after the Christmas program they dragged everything out of the way and had dances. They had quite a few dances in Dragon that they could round up an orchestra for. My dad played the mandolin and he played for years with the orchestra. Mrs. Dishays played the piano. When she was there she played with us. I can't remember what Ike Yordon played but he played for the orchestra for dances quite a bit.

In school I do have to say one thing about my step mother, she taught out there. Her husband had died and she taught out there for two or three years. She ended up as Lou Havens. She gave all of us there probably the finest grammar back then that you could get anywhere. Both my sister and I were ----- in English when we went onto college because of our grammar background we got in the little school in Dragon. We got those little black boards on that wall, and black boards on that wall, and we diagrammed until we just kind of shuddered. But if you diagram a lot you know your grammar.

We had spell downs with a manner of popularity not how bright you were. She would pick two people to choose teams and if you were last. I can remember Bud was always last, he couldn't spell at all. But we had spell downs. We memorized a lot of poetry in this state. Most of them still stay with me.

On the playground we played come, come, pull-away, and we played workup which is an activity kind of baseball. When it snowed we played fox and geese. We would be furious if anybody had walked in the big open space when they came to school after it had snowed where we would set up the fox and geese. We played at night mostly. We played kick the can, run

sheep run and hide and seek. When the snow got deep enough there was what we called the old meat trail right in front of our house that ran down the hill that we turned into a sledding hill. Once in awhile we would cook potatoes and had a fire and put the potatoes in and they must be terrible because they were all black on the outside and we were sure they were raw on the inside. We thought it was such an adventure because we were sleigh riding at night and we cooked potatoes.

(Marie shows a picture of the store and the school in the distance)

This is the picture showing the store mostly but the school is over there up under the cliffs. The little house here at the end of the footbridge was the house where I was born. I didn't ever have a birth certificate or anything like that. When you have to go through government birth certificates when you're older, you have to try to convince people you really are alive and so forth. I've always had kind thoughts about Uintah School District because I must have been about fifty when I had to get my birth certificate and you have to have certain forms. You have to get certain proofs. You have to get one from the census and relatives and so forth. The one proof they would accept was from the school district. I don't know where I was living (then), but I wrote back to Vernal and they still had those records from the old Dragon School, so I could use them for one of the proofs.

(Person in audience ask question) You know when you go out there now and there is an old foundation, what was that?

That was the store. There are only a couple of foundations, the store, and ----- . That was the Finnicum Store. Dore and all the Finnicums lived out on 1500 West until Dore died and then Norma married a Jensen. She's still alive in Grand Junction. I talk to her all the time.

(Question from audience) Where's her boy?

He's with her right now, he's not very well. He's divorced from his family so he's with her.

(Question from audience) What was his first name?

Jimmy.

The Utes, there were several family groups of Utes that lived out on Bitter Creek. They had free allotments out there given by the government. One year when it came time for school, these three families moved to town. They built wikias on south past Mr. Dishays' house. They had a place they called the Indian camp. They came in and set up their wikias, like tipis, only with poles, and put their kids in school. We had three Indian boys in school that year. One of them was ----- Lonebear, one of them was Wallace Tabby, and I cannot remember who the third one was. Well they'd been in school there for probably six weeks and a BIA truck came over and took those kids away from the school and from their parents and took them to the boarding school over at Whiterocks. I'm sure that's what the law said at that time, but we always thought it was the most, cruel thing that could have happened. But, the parents were willing to bring them to town to school.

(Question from audience) Which Tabby was it?

His name was Wallace Tabby, but then it was probably like Jack Dick who's called Archie Serrowop now. They have different names then they did then. My sister or I couldn't remember their names. We always laughed because they were terrible in arithmetic but they could out draw anybody else. They just had a knack, a natural knack of being able to draw. They were cute little boys. I have a small picture, you can see the three little Indian boys.

(Question from audience but is muffled)

A very short time before she died. That's where she came to. I think it was this woman from Tom Patterson. One of the old ones out there was her brother. I'm not sure, but Tom Patterson was another one that was older. But she lived with him. That's where she lived when she was in Utah. I have a picture on the wall of the store. (Bitter Creek Books)

I mentioned that we had a doctor who was paid by the railroad. His name was Dr. Montgomery. I think he was there for the railroad people but hardly anybody ever used him. I never and nobody didn't have money to have a doctor. He didn't have a very good reputation; he probably got to close to the juice of grape. So, he had a daughter that went to school there a little while, but not as long as we all did.

We looked forward to holidays. We looked forward to any break in a routine because it was pretty quiet around there. In the fall they had turkey shoots. They brought in turkeys probably from the valley here. I don't think that all the time we lived there that my dad ever bought a turkey. We always had one for Thanksgiving, one for Christmas, and one for New Years, because he was a pretty good shot. The Christmas programs were very important to us.

Then, we had a Fourth of July picnic. The town would just plan in mass and go some place cooler. Down in those canyons in the summer time it got pretty hot. We would go up to Columbine, which was straight south on the railroad just below the pass. There was a big spring called Columbine. That's where all the water for Dragon and Watson and Rector and Rainbow came from, was that big spring. They loaded it in water cars when the train came down over it. But, right at that big spring there was a park like place where we picnicked.

We picnicked up Dragon Canyon one Fourth of July. It rained and it flashed flooded. They had taken us up on trucks; they couldn't get the trucks to the washes, it got ----- over. So, everybody had to walk home. They always bought night fireworks and we looked forward to those so much. When we got home that night, the men had, had to carry all the kids through all this water and stuff and by the time we got home it was "Not tonight". So, that year we had fireworks on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July.

For the grownups they had more activities besides the turkey shoots. The women played a game called 500, which was more a less a forerunner of Bridge. At that time Bridge was regarded as a sissy game. Sometimes they all got together, men and women, and played 500. But, mostly the women played 500 in the afternoons. And, they held the dances. The men had a very active gun club. They built a little house so they could use it all winter, set up a target place. They shot in contests with people all over the country. They'd shoot their record, their targets, roll them up and mail them to this outfit and they'd send theirs. I remember an outfit in Ohio,

that they used to shoot against a lot. I still have my dad's old gun bag, a little bag and in it, it has a little book where he kept track of what he shot and each of those ----- he shot against.

Shopping was not great. We had Finnicums, the grocery store. They carried some dry goods, but not much in the way of clothes, maybe a little yard ----- . But, mostly we shopped from Sears and Montgomery Wards. People sort of preferred Sears, but Montgomery Ward was in Denver, where Sears was in Kansas City and the freight was cheaper from Denver. I didn't have shoes in a shoe store until I was in high school. Then they came from Sears and Montgomery Ward. Watson did have a general store, and they carried shoes. So, once in a great while, that means every two or three years we'd go down there. My dad wasn't much of a goer. If he wanted to go some place, he wanted to get farther in the hills. We would go down to Watson and buy shoes at Heaton's. When Watson was gone then Heaton's moved to Jensen.

(Question from audience) Who ran the store in Watson?

The Heaton's, I can't remember their first name. They had a store right by the bridge in Jensen in the early 1940's, after they left Watson. Then, they had a store over in Grand Valley, Colorado. After that I don't know what happened to them. They had one daughter of their own and one adopted one.

One of the things that always stuck in my memory, my sister's just been down visiting from Fairbanks. There was just the two of us and we were just a year and a half apart, so together we grew up there. It was a chivalry they gave one night and I remembered all the buzzing in our house. My parents must have been helping plan it. Carl Hyde brought back a bride from Fruita or Grand Junction by the name of Mary and the men decided to give them a Chivalry, which included bringing a wheel barrel. That probably was no problem but then they had to wait until they went to bed and then they went and got them out of bed and they took Carl riding all around Dragon in the wheel barrel and she had to furnish the food then when everybody got through with this. Fortunately the women took pity on her and they had things ready that they could take in. Since we didn't have very many activities I remember very well the Chivalry.

We always had pets in Dragon. I think when you live out like that probably everybody has a pet to keep the mice down if nothing else. But the cowboys that were partially there were the Brewer boys who were my cousins and lived down on Bitter Creek just west of Dragon. When they'd find some animal that was orphaned they brought it to us to raise. We had a little black colt that they brought us called Midnight. Then, the same summer we had the colt, we had a calf that they brought us that we called Utah. That same summer we had a porcupine that we called Danger. When they brought him, he was just a little ball. The mother had been killed or something and he was abandoned so they brought us a porcupine. We had some old rabbit hutches in the back yard so we put him in there for awhile and then we'd go out at night and dad would get a broom and take him out of that rabbit hutch and roll him over and over and he would just attack that broom and the two of them would have a wonderful time. He got pretty tame so we didn't keep him in the cage anymore. The calf would go around behind the house in the shade and lie down in the summer time. The porcupine would get up on his back. One day the calf

went -----. Mr. Dishays said he didn't know why he always had to help Bill cure his animals, but they had to hold him down while they pulled out of the spines out of him.

We always had cats. We usually had wire rabbits, mostly they were cotton tailed. They were so cute when they were little. One day dad had been across the river fixing some fence and he brought something made a noisy in his lunch box. And of course my sister and I always got into his lunch box anyway to see if he possibly left any crumbs for us poor starving children, and there was a little jack rabbit that they found out there. Well, he was very interesting. He was just an ornery little thing. He wasn't a nice gentle pet at all. We raised him mostly in the house until he got big enough and then we took him out in the canyons and turned him loose.

My sister had a little couch with a doll couch and he loved to roll on that doll couch. He thought we wanted to play with it, too bad, because he would just thump it every time that we would try to play with it.

The porcupine we took out to Augasai Canyon to the spring where he had come from. Mainly we had to because people around town were getting afraid of him because he thought town was his and he just ran around it. He never got spines on anybody. If we'd sit down, he would climb right up our legs into our laps. I wasn't real excited about that because if you pet him on the stomach that was alright but I was afraid I was going to get stuck. My sister held him regularly.

When Dragon was gone it was just if part of your life..... I think I minded most because when I went home at Christmas, I went home to Dragon, and when I went in the spring I went home to Little Bonanza. But there lots of painting and everything to be done because they had taken all these houses apart and taken them over to Little Bonanza. But, still Dragon is home.

We went out there a couple of weeks ago, and I know where everybody lived. If you go up to Rector, which a lot of people don't know about and it's harder to get into because the roads usually washed out. The clothesline posts are still there. Sometimes the shelter, people were just getting cars, and if they car to travel in of course there was no garages so they would all build a little shelter out by the side of their house. So, they took the house but they left the shelters there. You can see the clothes line posts and you can see the shelters. At Rector you can see the flat ----- and the cook house was and the bath house was down in the flats. Water was pretty scarce in that country, but the miners came out of the mines black and everything and so they had a bath house in the middle of the camp at Rector. On the outside they would hung just as many of the big wash tubs as they had men. The old man who couldn't work much anymore was in charge of getting those tubs down, heating water in the bath house, and then they had a bath every evening when they came home. They kept their good clothes in there. There mining clothes they hung up and got into the next day.

Around Vernal here we all knew who worked in the gilsonite because they had what we called raccoon eyes. They had the black gilsonite around their eyes, all of them. Once in awhile I see a fellow now that still does. But they tell me if they put Vaseline on them then they can get rid of it. But, I knew immediately who came from the gilsonite.

It was a great way to grow up. It was depression years, but we didn't know it. For some reason the gilsonite mines always worked. They always had contracts of some sort. They're used now mostly in paints. During World War II, they sold a lot of gilsonite when they were building the Victory. They were building a bunch of big ships on the west coast in a hurry and they used the gilsonite for insulation so a lot of it went out there, but the mines still worked. For awhile with the change of companies out here ten or twelve years ago things slowed down, but I don't think they will ever stop digging gilsonite. It looks like a piece of coal until you break it open and then it's just completely shiny where it fractures and it won't rub off, but as soon as the edges start to crumble it's brown, really dirty. Gilsonite was always mined in shafts instead of tunnels because the veins run across the country. The main veins run from the southeast to the northwest. If you look at any geological map you can see them like that. Any place where it widens to a certain length they considered them profit veins. There they mined and the shafts went straight down and the miners rode down generally in buckets, or little flat packs that they dropped down in. Then they worked out from there.

Generally then they sacked the ore below ground and brought it up in a bucket. But now I think because they have new processes in washing it and so forth they probably don't sack it before they bring it up. I haven't been out to one of the mines for years.

(Comment from man in audience) They bring it up and ----- it now. They ----- and chip it in holes in the sub and ----- surface.

Tell me how they're mining it now. Are they still using the -----?

(Man from audience) Still using chipping ----- . They have tried other methods ----- . Right on a thirty degree slope so that -----sub. The vein has to be mined, it has to be wide enough for your shoulders.

I was thinking it had to be a little wider than that to -----it.

(Man from audience) That's why they brought the Chinese in here. They could turn sideways with their face.

That must have been the ones over here. I was fascinated to read the book by the younger Remington who has written an extensive book on the gilsonite. He done it as a masters thesis out at the University of Utah. He died several years after that. He must have been quite young. I was fascinated to read how much mining there was over west of us long before they went over. In fact, I thought it was pretty interesting of all the stories I've heard of the Strip. The Strip exists because there was mining prospects in there and there was some important men that ----- who got in touch with Washington and kept that strip out of the Ute Reservation, because they wanted to mine it. It's kind of blows away some of the old stories.

(Man from audience) -----mine the Strip because it didn't belong to anybody. It didn't belong to the Indians, it didn't belong to the -----, didn't belong to the county, so the -----.

Those of us that grew up out at Dragon had good teeth, mainly because the water for -----came out of big Columbine Spring up on the mountain. It was so ----- . It had so many minerals in it. Dentists were unknown in our family until my sister was running on in



years, and all of the kids that grew up there, simply because the water was so mineralized. I remember my mother would get so annoyed it would fill up the spout on the tea kettle. When she couldn't knock it off she had to buy a new tea kettle.

(Question from audience) Marie, where does the -----the upper waters of Columbine spring come out of? Is that ----- . Was the spring down there?

Lake Andrews.

(Same audience question) Did they have a water tank out to that cement platform.

Ouray Columbine, they had a water tank there, they had a water tank down at Wendella, and then they had water tanks in each of the towns along the way. We had a reservoir up on the hill when they brought the water to dragon in these water tanks. Then they pumped it up into this reservoir on the hill. We didn't have anything but Clorox and they used to tell you there was mouse hair in the water, but we all used it.

(Question from audience) Did the engines, did they sometimes stop there at the watering hole?

Yes, the engines had to have water because they were running on steam. Then, they had to get the water at Columbine. I am pretty sure that even Atchee on the south side that they took water over to ----- . That was pretty dry country all over.

Does anybody else have questions?

(Question from audience) I am glad you mentioned Rector. I hadn't ever heard that before. Was it named after the -----.

I don't think so. It was probably somebody in the American Company. Probably back in St. Louis where the headquarters were that it was named after.

There had been four camps off from Dragon. There was a town at Black Dragon, then there was ----- and Country Boy that were up a little canyon right before you turn up to Rector.

(Question from audience) How large, how many were there living in those little places?

Those were pretty well closed up by the time I remember, but Rector, it would have had 25 or 30 homes for the miners.

(Question from audience) Was there a store at Rainbow?

No, I don't think there was a store at Rainbow. I don't know, they were so close together, those towns, but we never got back and forth. In those days there wasn't an easy road to get down there. The road still doesn't go. For six miles this side of Dragon it goes up and around the hills. The road doesn't follow the railroad down to Watson. There wasn't any really easy way to get there. I don't know that much about the-----.

(Comment from audience) There were some people that lived there, the Kings.

They didn't ever live in Dragon. They had a sheep ranch not far from Rainbow, over in an area I think they call it ----- . Then they owned property up on the north and Dry Fork Canyon that my dad would go -----.

(Question from audience) Was it Tom King or Bill King?

Well, I think there were both. I think they were English.

(Comment from man in audience) They came from the directly of Brown's Park to there.

(Question from audience) How did it get the name of Dragon?

I don't know. The mine was named Black Dragon, probably because of the blackness of the hole. When they took the town away this was right there at that mine. They moved it down to Dragon then it just -----.

(Comment from audience) I've always understood that there was only one other location in the world that they mined -----.

When I grew up it was with the understanding that this is the only place in the world where you found gilsonite in this form.

(Comment from audience) They've found it in a couple other areas in that-----.

(Question from audience) Marie, what was at the Black Dragon mine that appears to be a circular type building? Was it a water storage building or what was it for? It was further as you go into the mine just a little ways. It was pretty close to the mine.

Well they had so much powder then.

(From audience) So that would have been a powder house?

(From audience) Wasn't that a powder house in .....

There was a powder house in Dragon but it was up a ways behind Mr. Dehaze house up at the end of the town.

(Question from audience) Did you ever burn it for heat out there?

No, we heard some funny stories about burning it because it melts. They tell the story about the school house being built over in Colorado in one of those places where they have a lot of oil shale. Yet they used the fireplaces ----- and they ----- . They would melt the barrel once in awhile to use it to patch things. They never used it on roads or anything but they used that black tar.

(Question from audience) Something about the hotel.

You know the hotel burned when I was young and I so I just know from the pictures what it looked like. It and the Mack Hotel were built exactly alike. So if you see a picture in the Uintah Railway book of the Mack Hotel. That's the one the Dragon one looks like.

(Question from audience) Wasn't there a motel in Watson?

I don't know. There was another one in Dragon run by some people called Ziegler. They had property out in Park Canyon, the Ziegles did. She stayed here most of the time. It was just like a little boarding house for two people, when strangers came to town, they would ----- . The Ziegles had a son.

(Question from audience) ----- the mine or was it closer down by the wash.

It was closer to the wash, in fact I cannot find the wash in those old pictures and I know they didn't cover it up. They filled it up and then it washed out all -----and they filled it up. It doesn't show in some of those old pictures there of the mine.

(Question from audience) There was a store and a motel and a post office in Watson, beside the big building.....

That long freight building right by the new hotel. Of course the post office at Dragon was in the store.

(Question) Do you remember Donald Barr.

They were in there in charge of the freight office. They probably did have a telephone right there too.

(Comment from audience) They had a telephone office. It was just a building that they -----.

The Barr's had run the depot at Dragon for awhile. They're Melda Timothy's parents.

(Question from audience not understandable)

Don was a brother to Melda and there was another daughter named Margery.

Well it has certainly been nice to talk to all of you.

(Question) What about the cemetery?

Oh, yes the cemetery. There's something new been added up there. For any of you that have been out there in the last few years, John Hill and someone else who were riding horse back up Dragon Canyon about twelve years ago. Here was this new monument over in the old cemetery, which lies almost opposite of the Black Dragon Mine. So, they went over to see what it was and it's for a old man named John Trujillo who had a ranch on Bitter Creek and also a house in Dragon. But, his son, who lived in Denver, had thought he needed a new monument. He brought it out. He stopped at the store and said he had taken a monument to take out and put on his grand-dads grave because he was the last one buried there. Now, when we were out two weeks ago, someone had made big wreaths. They made them out of the thick grape vines. They tied them with just rope. There's the Trujillo grave. There's two caved in graves that you can see. There's a man names carved into the rock. That one has been there longer than anybody elses, and he didn't get a wreath. But they put wreaths on these other three. It would be interesting to know who bought those graves decorations.

(Comment from audience) This Juan Trujillo had a ranch on Bitter Creek. His name was Juan. His son was -----

I don't remember when I was a kid anybody that had moved in that's buried in that cemetery. Usually people who were really ill went out on the train to Fruita or Grand Junction. I don't remember anybody dying. It's mostly a fairly young population then. My aunt died in this area when coming into Dragon in a ----- train and from Bitter Creek in a wagon. But she's buried in Fruita. Jacks mother and all of the Brewers are -----.

(Question from audience) Had your father -----

He worked in a garage for years. He put in electricity. We had electric lights in Dragon. They had a big engine to charge the batteries that they used in the mines because that stuff is highly explosive. Every day the batteries had to be recharged that the miners wore on their belts and in the day time he charged the batteries and at night then Mr. Dihaze sent away and got a book on ----- and they wired it to him. But you better have been ready to go to bed by 10:00 because that's when dad went over and turned off the lights.

